

Greenwich St. N. Y.

My dear Frank -

Monday Morn. 30 Aug.

I received your letter last Tuesday, but delayed my journey to the City until today, when I forward you a package by Adams Express containing -

Drejer Caricel.
~~B.~~ revisio Car. bor.

Boott's corrected Carices ex Hook. Flor. Br. Am.

— Car. Sp. Nov. Lin. Soc.

Dewey's Car. (ex Till. Jour.)

Barratt's Willows labels!

all from your library; also Mr. Green's copy of Schk's Car. which please return, with thanks; & last, not least, you have the (in-)valuable Mss.

Revisio Caricum - I am sorry to observe by your letter that I ought to have written you before, but in truth, my news is not worth postage; my dear Brother, I think you is better & has been making a week's holiday with us in N. Jersey -

And now of my work; a revision of which, in connection with my own collections, has I hope enabled me to improve it materially - The Characters are greatly shortened, & yet embrace all that I have been enabled to detect as really distinctive & contrasting - My enumeration comprises 126 Species, less by 12 than Dewey's - I have, however, 14 Species which he has not, rejecting 26 of his! The Mss. is all ready

for press, except the accents, which please insert, as I had no Latin Dictionary at N. J. & thought I might make some errors. There is another point to which I wish to call your attention - In the §§. & sub §§. I have ^{readings} underscored the leading points, if therefore these ^{are} all in ital. could not the emphatic parts be in the ordinary Roman? if that would be troublesome or expensive, there remain but the alternatives of printing them in the Roman, & using the ital., as in the specif. char., or else to print the sections & subsec.^{ns} in ital. I omit altogether the notice of the strong points, which I committed to your choice & good judgment. I am of opinion that, taken as a whole, my work, in the same type, would not take up more room than Dewey's. At all events I have made it as short as I could - I must beg you to correct the proofs carefully by the Mss. for altho' I hope it is pretty good & clear, as a whole, yet the printer is unacquainted with my pot-looks, & might err in deciphering them, comely tho' they be. There are also a few very important words interpolated, the omission of which would materially affect the subject. I have given rather fuller synonym than you allow, but in this intricate genus it seemed desirable, & indeed necessary - You will remark that I have altered my mind as to the perplexing *C. cephaloides*, which I now append, with a good deal of satisfaction to *C. sparanioides*.

I have also taken up Boott's *C. aperta* (one of the acute!) for a plant sent to me by Olney - It is one of Dewey's var. of *C. acuta*. I am about to write Olney & shall ask him to send you a specimen, which please compare with your real *C. aperta*, if in time. However, I am very well convinced about it, as I have a poor spec.ⁿ from your Herb. of the Columbia plant. It is probably found throughout the continent but has been confounded with *C. stricta*, & *C. acuta*, to neither of which it belongs. The long scale, is a striking char. & the granular perig.^m smooth stem are also peculiar. I am satisfied we have no real *C. acuta*. I send you ~~an accompanying sheet~~ ^{the accompanying sheet} of paper some observations on my arrangement which, if you think them necessary or desirable in the way of explanation, you can print as Hooker has done Boott's talk at the commencement of the genus (in small letters) or embody what you think needful (if any) in your own preface. I wish I could save you the trouble of reading my Mss. against the first proof, but my distance, & the lapse of a day, whilst in Jersey, renders it inconvenient. However, I wish you would save all the Mss. & send on to me with a set of the sheets, & if any thing has escaped your sharp eyes, I will send you corrections in time for your errata. And now of other matters - *Woodsia flabella* - found by G. Vasey at Little Falls - I send you my only specimen. Let nothing tempt you to write. Adieu. Thelypt. 10. Nov. 1850.

They are perfectly distinct. Both are growing about me
in N. J. but never together, nor are there any "between"
I recognize both, instantly, whilst riding along the
road - The Characters are constant, & the rhizomes
different. Tripodacum grows about "Hompson's Creek"
N. J. with other salt-marsh grasses & occurs entirely wild.
It is not worth while to copy out the corrections I made
under carex in Torrey's sheets, as I have been working
with my own (interleaved) copy, & have made many
more - I was in error, it seems, as to the willow notes,
which I believe I have elsewhere. However, it is of no
moment - I have had two long letters from Devey
on Carices - I replied to the first, & took occasion
to tell him I had been arranging the species for
your book, & noted some of his to which I objected.
I also told him that I rejected to a great extent all
merely artificial arrangement, & that, as I could
not but see that our ideas of natural affinities
were widely different, I by no means promised
myself his approval of my labours. To this he replied
very courteously "I do not differ from you more than
half as much as you suppose, & may not differ even
half that. I wish the Nat. Syst.^m to prevail. I teach no
other" - He proceeds to deprecate any unkindness
to arise out of our opposite views, & says that we may
"agree to differ" - I venture to hope that I am the very last
person in the world, who requires such a caution, but it is well he feels
so.